

JEREMIAH 21-21

# JUDGEMENT AS DISCIPLINE

# 1. THE PROBLEM RESTATED

“People from many nations will pass by this city and will ask one another, ‘Why has the Lord done such a thing to this great city?’ And the answer will be: ‘Because they have forsaken the covenant of the Lord their God and have worshiped and served other gods.’” **(Jeremiah 22:8-9)**

“I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you. **(Genesis 12:2-3)**

"But your eyes and your heart are set only on dishonest gain, on shedding innocent blood and on oppression and extortion." **(Jeremiah 22:17)**

They speak visions from their own minds, not from the mouth of the Lord. They keep saying to those who despise me, 'The Lord says: You will have peace. And to all who follow the stubbornness of their hearts they say, 'No harm will come to you...v22...But if they had stood in my council, they would have proclaimed my words to my people and would have turned them from their evil way and from their evil deeds. **(Jeremiah 23:16ff)**

The prophets prophesy lies, the priests rule by their own authority, and my people love it this way. But what will you do in the end? **(Jeremiah 5:31)**

Now I will give all your countries into the hands of my servant Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon; I will make even the wild animals subject to him. **(Jeremiah 27:6)**

## 2. EXILE'S SURPRISING PURPOSE

Wherever I banish them, all the survivors of this evil nation will prefer death to life, declares the Lord Almighty. **(Jeremiah 8:3)**

My eyes will watch over them for their good, and I will bring them back to this land. I will build them up and not tear them down; I will plant them and not uproot them. I will give them a heart to know me, that I am the Lord. They will be my people, and I will be their God, for they will return to me with all their heart. **(Jeremiah 24:6-7)**

# A. IN IT FOR THE LONG HAUL

“Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. 6Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease (**Jeremiah 29:5-6**)



## B. IN IT TO RE-LEARN THEIR COVENANT PURPOSE

Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper. **(Jeremiah 29:7)**

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. **(Jeremiah 29:11)**

Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you," **(Jeremiah 29:12-14a)**

# 3 KEY WORDS

- Relationship
- Place
- Purpose

RELATIONSHIP

PLACE

PURPOSE

# 5 ATTITUDES

- Assimilate
- Reflect
- Despise
- Ignore
- Love

# QUESTIONS

- Am I reconciled to God? Have I got a relationship with him?
- How am I working out God's purposes for me where he has placed me, in my home, my job and my church?
- How am I helping our church to be a refuge for the city? What might God be calling me to do?
- Am I taking the opportunity to cling to Jesus in my suffering?